

The strong case presented by the Porte on Wednesday against the Italian annexation of Masowah was a surprise to the Central European powers, as it seemed so improbable that the Emperor of Austria would be so opposed to the transaction. Leading statesmen of these powers had ceased to worry over the Masowah incident, as they expected the matter to end in an exchange of notes. Now, however, the Suez Canal Convention is threatened.

In view of the fact that an Italian fleet, for all noble alike in numbers, in armament, and in speed, has for the past few days been rendezvousing off the coast of the Red Sea, the fleet which had gone there to demonstrate their threat of intervention against Turkey, the action of the Porte is an assurance to French statesmen that the Triple Alliance holds good for a quarrel with Mohammedanism, as well as for other eventualities. France is not so completely isolated in Soudan Crisis, Count Kalneisky and those around him believed, when Soudan Crisis came his way, that the Triple Alliance would be of some use to him. It is not so now.

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—152 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$85 per share, ex div. buyers.
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$68 per share, buyers.
 North China Insurance—Tls. 285 per share, buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$98 per share, buyers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 95 per share, sellers.
 Chinese Insurance Company—\$165 per share, buyers.
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150, per share.
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$135 per share, sellers.
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$74 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 33 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$218 per share, buyers.
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—115 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$165 per share, sellers.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—17 per cent. dis. sellers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$53 per share, sellers.
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$185 per share, sellers.
 Luon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$79 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$80 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$80 per share.
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$134 per share, buyers.
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—100 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—3 per cent. premium.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent. premium.
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$75 per share, sellers.
 Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$5 per share, nominal.
 Punjom and Sanghie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—\$11 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—62 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Tongkin Coal Mining Co.—65 per cent. premium, sellers.
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—210 per cent. premium, buyers.
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$48 per share, sellers.
 Cruickshank & Co., Ltd.—\$50 per share, sellers.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank, T. T. 3/11
 Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 3/10
 Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11
 Credits at 4 months' sight 3/11
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/11
 ON PARIS.—
 Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 3/8
 Credits at 4 months' sight 3/9
 ON INDIA, T. T. 22 1/2
 On Demand 22 1/2
 ON SHANGHAI.—
 Bank, T. T. 72 1/2
 Private, 30 days' sight 73

OPIUM MARKET.—THIS DAY.

NEW MALWA, per picul.....\$645
 OLD MALWA, per picul.....\$660
 NEW PATNA, (without choice) per chest.....\$555
 NEW PATNA, (first choice) per chest.....\$575
 NEW PATNA, (bottom) per chest.....\$561
 NEW PATNA, (second choice) per chest.....\$552
 NEW BENARES, (without choice) per chest.....\$421
 NEW BENARES, (bottom) per chest.....\$521
 OLD BENARES, per chest.....\$550
 OLD BENARES, (bottom) per chest.....\$560
 NEW PERSIAN (best quality) per picul.....\$630
 OLD PERSIAN (best quality) per picul.....\$600
 OLD PERSIAN (second quality) per picul.....\$580

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

16th October, 1888.—At 4 p.m.

STATION	Wind	Force	Direction	Barometer	Thermometer	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
Wanchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Taiwan	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Amoy	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Swatow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hainan	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hangchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hangchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	

17th October, 1888.—At 10 a.m.

STATION	Wind	Force	Direction	Barometer	Thermometer	Humidity	Clouds	Remarks
Wanchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Taiwan	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Amoy	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Swatow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hainan	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hangchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Hangchow	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	
Shanghai	W	3	W	30.0	70	80	1	

The barometer has fallen particularly in Shanghai. Gradients are moderate for north wind. Overcast, and rather damp weather prevails.

A thermometer at level of the sea in harbor, under shade, reads 70°.

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Shipping.

ARRIVALS.

GALLEY OF LORNE, British steamer, 1,380, Grandin, 17th Oct.—Singapore 10th Oct. General—Russell & Co.
 NAMOA, British steamer, 863, T. G. Pocock, 17th Oct.—Foonchow 14th October, Amoy 15th, and Swatow 16th, General—D. Lapraik & Co.
 CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
 Delfia, British steamer, for Amoy, &c.
 Lucia, British bark, for London.
 Oceanic, British steamer, for Yokohama, &c.
 Benary, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.

DEPARTURES.

October 17, *Ava*, French steamer, for Saigon and Marseilles.
 October 17, *Hangchow*, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 October 17, *Benary*, British steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 October 17, *Hailong*, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
 October 17, *Fasana*, Austro-Hungarian frigate, for Manila.
 October 17, *Actis*, Danish steamer, for Hoihow.
 October 17, *Oceanic*, British steamer, for Yokohama, &c.
 October 17, *Delfia*, British str., for Amoy, &c.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.

Per *Namoa*, str., from Foonchow, Amoy, &c.—Mrs. Harman, Misses Holworthy, Mr. Pethgana, and 140 Chinese (deck).

DEPARTED.

Per *Ava*, str., from Hongkong for Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. Chay and 3 infants, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. da Costa, Mr. A. da Costa, Mr. and Mrs. da Cunha Lima, Mr. and Mrs. Van Bore and infant, Mrs. Verin, Miss A. Bandoquin, Messrs. Saony, Tennant, Alex. Christie, W. Christie, Thomas Bryant, Thomas, and Leofant. From Shanghai for Saigon.—Mr. Braunstein Goldenberg and infant. For Marseilles.—Messrs. Lutscher, Moss, Samson, Richards, S. Hele, Rathonis, Joret, Caumartin, and Lesnec. From Yokohama.—Messrs. Colomb, Muraoka, Toyonaga, and Makoski. From Kobe for Colombo.—Mr. Ni Zenshiro.

Per *Wingsang*, str., for Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Vivien, Mr. and Mrs. Choleapchie, infant, and servant, Messrs. J. H. Rathborn and S. A. Russell. For Calcutta.—Mr. W. Monro.

Per *Oceanic*, str., for Yokohama.—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. do Rozario, Miss H. Rozario, Miss E. Rozario, Miss L. Leira, Mr. and Mrs. Matthers, Mrs. Witteched, Messrs. A. Barnard, Jas. Todd, P. Schmidt, C. H. Mahomed and servant, B. de Gong, and 1 Chinese (steerage). For San Francisco.—Mrs. C. Montague, Messrs. Ellis, Wootter, J. B. Wootter, A. H. Benning, Geo. Mitchell, and 66 Chinese (steerage). For London.—Captain Gamble.

Per *Actis*, str., for Hoihow.—60 Chinese.
 Per *Delfia*, str., for Amoy, &c.—150 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The British steamship *Galley of Lorne* reports that she left Singapore on the 10th instant, had moderate north-east wind and squally weather from Singapore to Paracels. From Paracels to port had fresh east-south-east to east-north-east wind and dark dirty weather with a continual rain; arrived here this morning at 4 o'clock.

The British steamship *Namoa* reports that she left Foonchow on the 14th instant. Amoy on the 15th, and Swatow on the 16th. From Foonchow to Amoy had fresh north-east winds and fine clear weather. From Amoy to Swatow had moderate breeze and fine weather with a smooth sea. From Swatow to port had light easterly breeze and overcast sky. In Foonchow the steamship *Vanning* and German gunboat *Wolf*. In Amoy, the steamships *Haitan*, *Formosa*, *Chiyuen*, and *Port Adelaide*. In Swatow, the steamship *Tamsui*.

Post Office.

A. MAIL WILL CLOSE.

For Swatow and Bangkok.—Per *Devanagiri*, to-morrow, the 18th instant, at 9 a.m.
 For Saigon.—Per *Wytorn*, to-morrow, the 18th instant, at 4.30 p.m.
 For Haiphong.—Per *Marie*, to-morrow, the 18th instant, at 5.00 p.m.
 For Amoy.—Per *China*, to-morrow, the 18th instant, at 5.00 p.m.

For Straits and Bombay.—Per *Lombardy*, on Friday, the 19th instant, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Straits and Calcutta.—Per *Arradon*, on Friday, the 19th instant, at 11.30 a.m.
 For Singapore.—Per *Frigea*, on Sunday, the 21st instant, at 9.00 a.m.

For Europe, &c., India, via Bombay.—Per *Hydaspes*, on Wednesday, the 24th instant, at 11.00 a.m.
 For Europe, &c.—Per *Neckar*, on Saturday, the 27th instant, at 5.00 p.m.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

ALBANY, British steamer, 2,660, E. Porter, 14th Oct.—Vancouver 14th Sept., Yokohama 4th Oct., Kobe 7th, and Shanghai 11th, General—Adamson, Bell & Co.
 APENRADE, German steamer, 1,476, Hohlmann, 15th Oct.—Kobe 8th October, Coals.—Geo. R. Stevens & Co.
 ARATON APCAR, British steamer, 1,392, T. G. Offent, 14th Oct.—Calcutta 28th Sept., Penang 31st Oct., and Singapore 8th, General—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.
 CHINA, German steamer, 1,092, P. Hays, 15th Oct.—Saigon 10th October, Rice and Paddy.—Siemssen & Co.
 CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, American steamer, 3,548, Wm. Ward, 15th Oct.—San Francisco 19th Sept., and Yokohama 10th Oct., Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
 CRUSADER, British steamer, 674, Ogston, 25th Sept.—Manila 22nd Sept., General.—Soy Sing.

DEVANAGIRI, British steamer, 1,057, P. H. Loff, 15th Oct.—Bangkok 20th October, General.—Yuen Fat Hong.
 FALKENBURG, German steamer, 980, H. Bantel, 11th Oct.—Saigon 24th Sept., Rice.—Melchers & Co.
 FAME, British steamer, 117, A. Stopani.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.
 FRIGIDA, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 14th Oct.—Kobe 9th October, General.—Siemssen & Co.
 GHAZI, British steamer, 1,764, Scotland, 16th Oct.—Saigon 24th Sept., General.—Soy Sing.

HAIPHONG, British steamer, 1,121, Harris, 13th Oct.—Kuching 8th October, Coals.—D. Lapraik & Co.
 LOMBARDY, British steamer, 2,754, C. F. Preston, 10th Oct.—Bombay 24th Sept., and Singapore 4th Oct., Coals and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

HONGKONG—STEAMERS.

Continued.

MARIE, German steamer, 704, Riecke, 15th Oct.—Haiphong 13th October, General.—A. R. Mary.

MENNON, British steamer, 825, A. Dorff, 16th Oct.—Borneo, and Singapore 20th October, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PHUQUOC, French steamer, 182, Robins, 17th Oct.—Macao 11th October, Ballast.—Wing Tai.

PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.
 SOOCHOW, British steamer, 318, Rowin, 10th Oct.—Pakhoi 6th Oct., and Hoihow 9th, General.—Order.

TELAMON, British steamer, 1,557, M. H. F. Jackson, 14th Oct.—Liverpool 1st Sept., and Singapore 8th Oct., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

VICTORIA, British steamer, 1,530, John Coudon, 15th Oct.—Nagasaki 10th October, Coals.—Takasima Colliery Co.

VISAVAS, Spanish steamer, 406, J. de Ajubia, 8th Oct.—Manila, via Amoy 4th October, General.—Ban Ho.

WYVERN, British steamer, 1,108, J. Brotherton, 13th Oct.—Bangkok 7th October, Rice and General.—Tung Kee.

SAILING VESSELS.

ADOLPH, German bark, 867, E. Westergaard, 5th August.—Hamburg 19th April, General.—Order.

CARRIER DOVE, British bark, 1,026, A. Forwyth, 7th Oct.—Kobe 16th September, General.—Order.

DIANE, Norwegian bark, 764, J. Petersen, 2nd Oct.—Sourabaya 23rd August, Sugar.—Order.

ERLEKONIG, Chinese bark, 457, Optum Examination hulk, Stencutten's Island.—Chinese Customs.

FIGARO, German bark, 1,006, G. Heintzel, 6th October.—Singapore 12th Sept., Timber.—Melchers & Co.

FOOCHOW, Siamese brig, 300, O. C. S. Schmiedel, 11th Oct.—Bangkok 13th Sept., Timber.—Chinese.

FORTUNE, Siamese bark, 447, T. L. Soderstrom, 28th Sept.—Bangkok 1st Sept., Rice and Wood.—Chinese.

GOV. GOODWIN, American ship, 1,459, S. Pray, 1st Oct.—Kobe 20th Sept., Coal.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

GREAT ADMIRAL, American ship, 1,497, James F. Rowell, 18th Sept.—San Francisco 28th July, Flour.—Russell & Co.

HATTIE E. TAPLEY, British bark, 907, J. McConachy, 5th Sept.—Sandakan 15th August, Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

HEI-CHONG, British bark, 320, T. C. Thomsen, 4th Sept.—Bangkok 12th August, Rice and General.—Kong Tong Tai.

HONOLULU, British ship, 1,599, Leavy, 2nd Oct.—Shanghai 24th Sept., Ballast.—Melchers & Co.

IRON, French bark, 542, Begnier, 10th October.—London 20th May, General.—Melchers & Co.

JOHN MCLEOD, British ship, 1,300, J. B. Stuart, 21st Sept.—Hamburg 20th May, General.—Siemssen & Co.

JOHN M. BLAINE, British ship, 1,778, D. F. Faulkner, 8th Oct.—New York 25th June, Kerosene Oil.—Order.

LEADING WIND, American ship, 1,159, F. M. Hinkley, 9th October.—New York 16th May, Kerosene Oil.—Russell & Co.

LUCIA, British bark, 640, Wood, 5th August.—Fredericton, N. S. Australia 11th July, Sandalwood.—Order.

MARY L. STONER, American ship, 1,420, Carver, 11th Oct.—Shanghai 20th Oct., General.—Pustan & Co.

MONROVIA, British ship, 1,492, H. Coming, 10th Sept.—Shanghai 29th August, Ballast.—Siemssen & Co.

NAUPACTUS, British ship, 1,399, Lovitt, 4th Oct.—Philadelphia 12th May, Kerosene Oil.—Master.

P. N. BLANCHARD, American ship, 1,503, M. W. Blanchard, 25th Sept.—Hioigo (Japan) 5th Sept., General.—Siemssen & Co.

Intimations.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE DOLLARS per Share for the year 1887 will be payable on THURSDAY, the 11th instant.

Warrants may be had on application at the Office of the Society on and after that date.

By Order of the Board, N. J. EDE, Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th October, 1888.

THE HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

THE CARS RUN as follows between St. JOHN'S PLACE and VICTORIA GAP—

8 to 10 a.m. every quarter of an hour.
 12 to 2 p.m. half hour.
 4 to 8 p.m. quarter of an hour.

SUNDAYS.

CHURCH TRAM at 10 a.m.
 12 to 2 p.m. every quarter of an hour, and from 4 to 8 p.m. every quarter of an hour.

Single Tickets are sold in the Cars; Five-Cent Coupons and Reduced Tickets at the Office of MACEWEN, FRICKEL & Co., General Managers.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, 50 & 52, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 11th October, 1888.

NOTICE.

FROM the 1st of November next, the SHANGHAI BUTCHERY will be prepared to supply BEEF, LARD IN BLADDERS, FRESH and PICKLED ENGLISH PORK, SAUSAGES, &c.

Also, BEEF IN JOINTS and CORNED, BLACK PUDDINGS, PORK and GAME PIES.

S. R. GALE, Shanghai, 21st September, 1888.

FOR SALE, CHEAP.

SEVERAL RELIABLE HACKS AND CARRIAGE PONIES.

A First-class London made DOG-CART and THREE BASKET CARRIAGES, all in good order.

For Particulars, apply to No. 6, PEDDER'S HILL, Hongkong, 20th May, 1888.

STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Niobe	Hamburg	October 20th	Siemssen & Co.
Titan	Liverpool	October 20th	Butterfield & Swire.
Pathan	Liverpool	October 21st	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Glenorchy	London	October 22nd	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Laertes	Liverpool	October 23rd	Butterfield & Swire.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
London, &c., via Suez Canal	Hydaspes	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Oct. 24th, at noon.
London, via Suez Canal	Antenor	Butterfield & Swire.	Oct. 19th, at 4 p.m.
Bremen, & Ports of Call.	Ningchow	Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	About Oct. 27th.
Havre and Hamburg, &c.	Neckar	Melchers & Co.	Oct. 28th, at 10 a.m.
New York, via Suez Canal	Frigea	Siemssen & Co.	Oct. 21st, at 4 p.m.
San Francisco, via Ythama	City of Rio de Janeiro	Russell & Co.	About Oct. 27th.
San Francisco, via Ythama	Gaelic	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Oct. 27th, at 3 p.m.
Vancouver, B.C., via K. & C.	Albany	O. & O. S. N. Co.	Oct. 25th, at 3 p.m.
Sydney, Melbourne, &c.	Albany	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Oct. 25th, at 3 p.m.
Calcutta, via Straits	Gharce	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	Quick despatch.
Straits and Bombay	Arratoon Apar	D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.	Oct. 19th, at noon.
Singapore and Sourabaya	Lombardy	P. & O. S. N. Co.	Oct. 19th, at noon.
Yokohama, via N'saki, &c.	Deuteros	Ah Yon & Co.	To-morrow, at 4 p.m.
Nagasaki, Kobe, &c.	Ancona	P. & O. S. N. Co.	About Oct. 26th.
Tientsin	Laertes	Butterfield & Swire	Oct. 20th, at 4 p.m.
Shanghai, Kobe, &c.	Soochow	Adamson, Bell & Co.	October 22th.
Shanghai, via Amoy	Pathan	Butterfield & Swire.	Oct. 20th, at 4 p.m.
Haiphong	Titan	Adamson, Bell & Co.	October 22nd.
Swatow and Bangkok	Marie	Butterfield & Swire.	October 22nd.
Coast Ports	Devawongse	A. R. Marty	Oct. 19th, daylight.
	Haiphong	Yuen Fat Hong	To-morrow at 10 a.m.
		Douglas Lapraik & Co.	Oct. 21st, daylight.